

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

--A context sensitive device ~~includes~~ including a card portion (101) having a number of user interpretable icons (e.g. 122), an electronic apparatus (106) attached to the card portion (101) which includes a memory unit in which are retained character strings, including contextual information, associated with the corresponding icons (122). The apparatus (106) also has a processor ~~means~~ unit coupled to ~~said~~ the memory ~~means~~ unit, and a communication ~~means~~ unit for coupling the processor to a reading device (302), which is configured to facilitate reading the context sensitive device. The processor is configured to relate reading signals resulting from a user selection of one of the icons (122), and received via the communication ~~means~~ unit with at least one of the stored character strings, to thus transmit an output signal for indicating a desired service based on the contextual information.--

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph that begins on line 8 of page 10, as follows:

--Fig. 10 is a flow chart showing the sequence of communications that would occur between the reader 302 and the base station ~~303~~ 903, if the user inserted the card 401 into the reader 302 and pressed the icon 403 labeled "Emergency". The process begins at step 1001, where if the user happens to be in Sydney, Australia, the reader 102 transmits the following command to the base station ~~303~~ 903:--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 40, as shown below.

1. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device for selecting a desired service from a plurality of like services each having an attribute depending upon a context of said each service, the context sensitive device comprising:

a card portion having a surface onto which is formed a user interpretable icon; and

electronic apparatus attached to said card portion, said electronic apparatus comprising:

a memory in which are retained a plurality of data items each including contextual information associated with a context of a corresponding one of said like services, each of said plurality of data items being associated with said icon;

processor means coupled to said memory means; and

communication means for coupling said processor means to a reading device configured to facilitate operation of said context sensitive device,

wherein said processor means is configured to relate signals (a) generated from a user selection of said icon and (b) received via said communication means with at least one of said retained data items to thus transmit an output signal having contextual information associated with the desired service and enable performance of the desired service based on said contextual information.

2. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 35, wherein the reading device further comprises a transceiver apparatus for receiving and analysing said output signal in order to enable or reject a performance of said desired service based on said contextual information.

3. (Original) A context sensitive device according to claim 2, wherein said transceiver apparatus is coupled to said context sensitive device via a communications channel.

4. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 35, wherein said performance of said desired service is enabled if the contextual information in the output signal matches the actual context of the desired service, otherwise transmission of another said output signal having contextual information matching the actual context of the desired service is requested.

5. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 35, wherein said performance of said desired service is enabled if contextual information in the output signal falls within a predetermined range, otherwise transmission of another said output signal having contextual information matching the actual context of the desired service is requested.

6. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 4, wherein said processor means compares said plurality of data items with a

subsequently received data item upon said request for transmission of another said output signal.

7. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 6, wherein said processor means is configured to transmit another output signal based on said comparison of said plurality of data items with said subsequently received data item.

8. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 35, further comprising additional user interpretable icons wherein said icons comprise a first set of icons providing for user generation of said retained data items, and a second set of icons corresponding to those said icons associated with said retained data items.

9. (Original) A context sensitive device according to claim 8, wherein said first set of icons depict at least an alphanumeric character set.

10. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 9, wherein said first set of icons further depicts at least one control function associated with forming said signals generated from user selection of said icons.

11. (Original) A context sensitive device according to claim 8, wherein said second set of icons each comprise an image.

12. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 8, wherein said signals generating from user selection of said icons comprise position information of said icons on said surface and said memory means and processor means together perform a mapping function to associate said position information with individuals characters of said data items to thereby interpret a user selection of a plurality of icons of said first set with one of said data items.

13. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 35, wherein said reading device comprises a touch panel configured to overlay said surface and through which said icons are visible to said user.

14. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 35 , wherein said contextual information is related to position.

15. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 35, wherein said contextual information is related to time.

16. (Previously Amended) A method of using a context sensitive device to enable performance of a desired service from a plurality of like services each having an attribute depending upon a context of said each service, said context sensitive device comprising:

a card portion having a surface onto which is formed user interpretable icon;

and

electronic apparatus attached to said card portion, said electronic apparatus comprising:

a memory in which are retained a plurality of data items each including contextual information associated with a context of a corresponding one of said like services, each of said plurality of data items being associated with said icon;

processor means coupled to said memory means; and

communication means for coupling said processor means to a reading device configured to facilitate operation said context sensitive device;

said method comprising the steps of:

(a) relating signals generated from a user selection of said icon and received via said communication means with at least one of said retained data items including associated said contextual information;

(d) transmitting an output signal including said at least one retained data item, wherein said output signal indicates said desired service;

(e) comparing said contextual information in the output signal to an actual context of the desired service; and

(f) enabling said performance of said desired service based on said comparison.

17. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein said reading device further comprises a transceiver apparatus for receiving and analysing said output signal in order to carry out said comparison and thus to enable performance of said desired service based on said comparison.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 17, wherein said transceiver apparatus is coupled to said context sensitive device via a communications channel.

19. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein said performance of said desired service is enabled if said contextual information in the output signal matches the actual context of the desired service, otherwise transmission of another said output signal having contextual information matching the actual context of the desired service is requested.

20. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein said performance of said desired service is enabled if said portion of contextual information falls within a predetermined range, otherwise transmission of another said output signal having contextual information matching the actual context of the desired service is requested.

21. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 19, comprising the further step of comparing said plurality of data items with a subsequently received data item upon said request for transmission of another said output signal.

22. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 21, comprising the further step of transmitting another output signal based on said comparison of said plurality of data items with said subsequently received data item.

23. (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 16, wherein said reading device comprises a touch panel configured to overlay said surface and through which said icons are visible to said user.

24. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein said contextual information is related to position.

25. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein said contextual information is related to time.

26. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device for selecting a desired service from a plurality of like services each having an attribute depending upon a context of said each service, the context sensitive device comprising:

a card portion having a surface onto which is formed a user interpretable icon and an electronic apparatus attached to said card portion, said electronic apparatus comprising:

a memory in which are retained a plurality of data items each including contextual information associated with a context of a corresponding one of said like services, each of said plurality of data items being associated with said icon;

processor means coupled to said memory means; and

communication means for coupling said processor means to a reading device configured to facilitate operation of said context sensitive device,

wherein said processor means is configured to transmit, upon selection of the icon, an output signal including contextual information from one of the retained data items, for indicating the desired service based on said contextual information.

27. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 26, wherein the reading device further comprising a transceiver apparatus for receiving and analysing said output signal in order to enable or reject a performance of said desired service based on said contextual information.

28. (Original) A context sensitive device according to claim 27, wherein said transceiver apparatus is coupled to said context sensitive device via a communications channel.

29. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 26, wherein said performance of said desired service is enabled if said contextual information in the output signal matches the actual context of the desired service, otherwise transmission of another said output signal having contextual information matching the actual context of the desired service is requested.

30. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 26, wherein said performance of said desired service is enabled if said contextual information falls within a predetermined range, otherwise transmission of another said

output signal having contextual information matching the actual context of the desired service is requested.

31. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 29, wherein said processor means is configured to compare said plurality of data items with a subsequently received data item upon said request for transmission of another said output signal.

32. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 31, wherein said processor means is configured to transmit another output signal based on said comparison of said plurality of data items with said subsequently received data item.

33. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 26, wherein said contextual information is related to position.

34. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device according to claim 26, wherein said contextual information is related to time.

35. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive device for selecting a desired service from a plurality of like services each having an attribute depending upon a context of said each service, the context sensitive device comprising:

a card portion having a surface onto which is formed a user interpretable icon;

a memory in which are retained at least a plurality of data items each including contextual information associated with a context of a corresponding one of said like services, each of said data items being associated with said icon; and

communication means for coupling said memory to a processor means of a reading device configured to facilitate operation of said context sensitive device,

wherein said processor means is configured to relate signals (a) generated from a user selection of said icon and (b) received via said communication means, with at least one of said retained data items to thus transmit an output signal having contextual information associated with the desired service and enable performance of the desired service based on said contextual information.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive service provision system for providing a desired service from a plurality of like services each having an attribute depending upon a context of said each service, the system comprising:

a control template, adapted for insertion into a template reader, the template (i) having a user selectable control icon, and (ii) storing a plurality of data items associated with said icon, each said data item incorporating contextual information associated with a context of a corresponding one of said like services;

said reader, being responsive to a user selection of said control icon of an inserted said control template, said reader being adapted to communicate a signal including one of said associated data items; and

a service provision device, responsive to a communicated said signal, and adapted to provide a service corresponding to the associated data item dependent upon the contextual information contained in said communicated signal.

38. (Original) A context sensitive service provision system according to claim 37, wherein the reader and the service provision device are physically separate entities which communicate using a communication channel.

39. (Original) A context sensitive service provision system according to claim 37, wherein the reader and the service provision device are integrated into a single physical entity.

40. (Currently Amended) A control template, adapted for insertion into a template reader having an independent storage means, said template reader for use in a context sensitive service provision system for providing a desired service from a plurality of like services each having an attribute depending upon a context of said like services ~~each service~~, the control template comprising:

~~a user selectable control icon; and~~

a control indicium printed on a surface of the control template, the control indicium for use by a user when the control template is coupled to the template reader to

thereby communicate a data item incorporating contextual information associated with the context of the desired one of said like services; and

storage means for storing a plurality of data items associated with said icon indiciu, each said data item incorporating contextual information associated with a context of a corresponding one of said like services.

41. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive service provision system according to claim 37, wherein

the reader has reader contextual information associated therewith, said reader contextual information being communicated in the signal;

the service provision device has device contextual information associated therewith defining the actual context of the service provision device;

the service provision device is further adapted to provide the desired service if the device contextual information matches at least one of the contextual information and the reader contextual information contained in said communicated signal; and

the service provision device is further adapted to (i) communicate the device contextual information to the reader, and (ii) request at least one of updated contextual information and updated reader contextual information, if the device contextual information does not match at least one of the contextual information and the reader contextual information contained in said communicated signal.

42. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive service provision system according to claim 37, wherein said desired service is provided if at least one of the

contextual information and the reader contextual information contained in said communicated signal falls within range defined by the device contextual information.

43. (Previously Amended) A context sensitive service provision system according to claim 37, wherein said control template further comprises a first set of user selectable control icons providing for user generation of data items, and a second set of user selectable control icons with which said data items are associated.

44. (Original) A context sensitive service provision system according to claim 37, wherein at least one of the reader contextual information, and the device contextual information are related to corresponding locations of said reader and said device.

45. (Original) A context sensitive service provision system according to claim 37, wherein at least one of the reader contextual information, and the device contextual information are related to a time at which the user selection of said at least one control icon takes place.

46. (Previously Amended) A method of providing a context sensitive service, said service being one of a plurality of like services each having an attribute depending upon a context of said each service, the method comprising steps of:
inserting a control template into a template reader, the template (i) having a user selectable control icon, and (ii) storing a plurality of data items associated with said

icon, each said data item incorporating contextual information associated with a context of a corresponding one of said like service;

selecting, by a user, said control icon;

communicating, by said reader, in response to the user selection, a signal including said associated data item having contextual information associated with said context sensitive service;

receiving, by a service provision device, of said communicated signal; and

providing, by the service provision device, a service corresponding to the associated data item dependent upon the contextual information contained in said communicated signal.

47. (Previously Amended) A method of providing a context sensitive service according to claim 46, comprising further steps of:

communicating, by the reader, reader contextual information associated with the reader; wherein:

if device contextual information associated with the service provision device matches at least one of the contextual information and the reader contextual information contained in said communicated signal, the providing step is performed; and wherein:

if the device contextual information does not match at least one of the contextual information and the reader contextual information contained in said communicated signal, the providing step is preceded by the steps of:

communicating, by the service provision device, device contextual information to the reader; and

requesting, by the service provision device, at least one of updated contextual information and updated reader contextual information.

48. (Previously Amended) A computer readable medium for storing a program for a system providing a context sensitive service from a plurality of like services each having an attribute depending upon a context of said each service; wherein a control template is inserted into a template reader, the template (i) having a user selectable control icon, and (ii) storing a plurality of data items associated with said icon, each said data item incorporating contextual information associated with a context of a corresponding one of said services; and wherein said control icon is selected by a user, said program comprising:

code for a communicating step, for communicating, by said reader, in response to the user selection, a signal including said associated data item;

code for a receiving step, for receiving, by a service provision device, of said communicated signal; and

code for a providing step, for providing, by the service provision device, a service corresponding to the associated data item dependent upon the contextual information contained in said communicated signal.

49. (Previously Amended) A computer readable medium according to claim 48, further comprising:

code for a communicating step, for communicating, by the reader, reader contextual information associated with the reader;

code for a communicating step, for communicating, by the service provision device, device contextual information to the reader if the device contextual information does not match at least one of the contextual information and the reader contextual information contained in said communicated signal; and

code for a requesting step, for requesting, by the service provision device, at least one of updated contextual information and updated reader contextual information.

50. (Previously Amended) A computer readable medium for storing a program for using a context sensitive device to enable performance of a desired service from a plurality of like services each having an attribute depending upon a context of said each service, wherein said context sensitive device comprises:

(i) a card portion having a surface onto which is formed a user interpretable icon, and electronic apparatus attached to said card portion; said apparatus comprising:

(a) a memory in which are retained a plurality of data items each including contextual information associated with a context of a corresponding one of said like services, each of said data items being associated with said icon;

(b) processor means coupled to said memory means; and

(c) communication means for coupling said processor means to a reading device configured to facilitate operation of said context sensitive device;

said program comprising:

(a) code for a relating step for relating signals (a) generated from a user selection of said icon and (b) received via said communication means, with at least one of said retained data items;

(b) code for a transmitting step for transmitting an output signal including said retained data item, wherein said output signal indicates said desired service;

(c) code for a comparing step for comparing said contextual information to the actual context of the desired service; and

(d) code for an enabling step for enabling said performance of said desired service based on said comparison.

51. (Previously Presented) A control template, adapted for insertion into a template reader connected to an environment for use in a context sensitive service provision system for providing a desired service from a plurality of like services each having an attribute depending upon a context of said plurality of like services, the environment having an independent storage means comprising an additional contextual information, the control template comprising:

a user selectable control icon; and

storage means for storing a plurality of data items associated with said control icon, each of said plurality of data items incorporating contextual information associated with a context of a corresponding one of said plurality of like services,

wherein the contextual information and the additional contextual information instigate a request for at least one of said plurality of like services.

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 5, 2003 (Paper No. 13). Claims 1 to 35 and 37 to 51 are in the application, of which Claims 1, 16, 26, 35, 37, 40, 46, 48, 50 and 51 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, the Examiner's continued indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 1 to 35, 37 to 39 and 41 to 51 is acknowledged with appreciation.

Claim 40 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,049,728 (Rovin). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 40 defines a control template adapted for insertion into a template reader having an independent storage means. The template reader is for use in a context sensitive service provision system for providing a desired service from a plurality of like services each having an attribute depending upon the context of the service. The control template comprises a user control indicium printed on a surface of the control template, the control indicium for use by a user when the control template is coupled to the template reader to thereby communicate a data item incorporating contextual information associated with the context of the desired one of said like services. The control template also comprises a storage means for storing a plurality of data items associated with the indicium, each data item incorporating contextual information associated with a context of a corresponding one of said like services.

According to one feature of the invention, the user is able to use a control indicium printed on the surface of the control template when the control template is coupled to the template reader, to thereby communicate a data item incorporating contextual information associated with the context of the desired one of said like services. To its advantage, the control template can be instinctively operated by a user by simply pressing the control indicium displaying the desired function, when the control template is placed in a suitable reader having an user input unit, such as transparent touch sensitive panel.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of the present invention. In particular, Rovin is not seen to describe a control indicium printed on a surface of a control template, the control indicium for use by a user when the control template is coupled to the template reader to thereby communicate a data item incorporating contextual information associated with the context of the desired one of said like services.

Rovin discloses an integrated circuit (IC) card into which removable IC modules can be inserted into the IC card in order to permit the card to be used simultaneously for several different applications. See Rovin, Abstract; and col. 2, ll. 46 to 51. The removable IC modules permit a user to operate the card to conduct a variety of different transactions, such as accessing a personal telephone directory or detailed medical profile, or conducting point-of-sale credit or debit operations. See col. 3, ll. 44 to 51; and col. 1, ll. 38 to 45. In Rovin, the IC modules can be removed or changed only by removing moveable plate 20, while the IC card is outside of the card reader. See col. 5, ll. 7 to 13.

In this regard, in Rovin the removable IC modules are embedded inside the IC card, and are not seen to be printed on the surface of the control template.

Furthermore, since it is an object of Rovin to reduce the number of different IC cards that the user must carry, and since each IC card facilitates a different transactional purpose, Rovin is not seen to provide for communicating data items of like services.

Thus, Applicants assert that Rovin is not seen to provide for control indicium printed on the surface of the control template, the control indicium for use by the user when the control template is coupled to the template reader to thereby communicate the data item incorporating contextual information associated with the context of the desired one of said of like services.

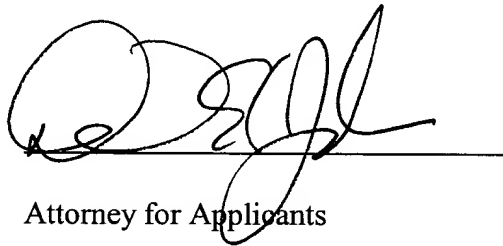
Accordingly based on the foregoing amendments and remarks independent Claim 40 is believed to be allowable over the applied references.

Finally, the Abstract has been amended largely according to the Examiner's suggestion, to remove all legal words.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. J. Harper', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

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